

Message Text

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ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SCI-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 FEA-02 OMB-01

TRSE-00 IO-14 CIEP-02 USIA-15 /158 W

----- 037505

R 011507Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8416

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0281

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, DA

SUBJ: ENERGY: WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 21413

BEGIN SUMMARY: DANES WELCOMED ADDITIONAL US
VIEWS ON ENERGY CONFERENCE AS USEFUL FOR NEXT
WEEK'S COUNCIL MEETING. THEY HAVE NO ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS AND COULD AGREE TO PROPOSED AGENDA AND
PROCEDURES. THIS POSITION WILL NECESSARILY
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BE MODIFIED IN EC CONSULTATIONS. DANES WILL

GO TO COUNCIL MEETING PREPARED TO COMPROMISE IN INTEREST OF COMMUNITY UNITY BUT NOT TO POINT OF SACRIFICING THEIR OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS. FRENCH ARE PUSHING THEIR POSITION HARD WITH FONOFF BUT HAVE BEEN TOLD DENMARK SUPPORTS US INITIATIVE. DANES CONTINUE TO HAVE DIFFICULTIES IN INCREASING THE RANK OF THEIR DELEGATION BECAUSE OF PRESSING DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUES BUT ASSURE US THEY WILL HAVE HIGHEST-QUALITY DELEGATION POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

1. WE INFORMED FONOFF (RIBERHOLDT) OF FURTHER US VIEWS OUTLINED REFTEL. RIBERHOLDT HAD FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

A. HE APPRECIATED HELPFUL AMPLIFICATION OF US VIEWS AND WOULD PASS THEM TO FONMIN GULDBERG FOR CONSIDERATION IN PREPARATION OF DANISH POSITION FOR NEXT WEEK'S COUNCIL MEETING.

B. ON LEVEL OF DANISH REPRESENTATION, GULDBERG TOLD HIM LAST NIGHT THAT ONLY OTHER APPROPRIATE MINISTER DENMARK COULD SEND WOULD BE ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE MINISTER NYBOE ANDERSEN. HOWEVER, ANDERSEN IS ESSENTIAL FOR CRUCIAL DISCUSSION OF DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ISSUES (ON WHICH FATE OF MINORITY GOVERNMENT HANGS) PRECISELY DURING WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS GIVEN US THE SAME EXPLANATION. NYBOE ANDERSEN CANNOT THEREFORE BE SPARED AND GOVERNMENT IS NOW CONSIDERING ADDITIONS TO DELEGATION FROM AMONG MOST COMPETENT CIVIL SERVANTS AVAILABLE. RIBERHOLDT AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT DENMARK'S INABILITY TO PROVIDE HIGH-RANKING DELEGATION IN NO WAY SIGNIFIES DOWN-GRADING OF MEETING IN ITS EYES. HE WAS CERTAIN THAT WHATEVER DANISH DELEGATION MAY LACK IN RANK IT WILL MAKE UP WITH QUALITY.

C. IN FURTHER REVIEW OF US AGENDA AND WORKING GROUP PROPOSALS, DANISH GOVERNMENT FINDS CONFIDENTIAL

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NO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS AND HAS NO FURTHER COMMENTS AT THIS TIME. IT IS CONCERNED ABOUT POST-CONFERENCE FOLLOW-ON ACTIONS ON WHICH AGREEMENT WILL PROBABLY BE MOST DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE IN VIEW OF ANTICIPATED FRENCH OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS. IN THIS REGARD, HE NOTED WITH INTEREST THAT WE DO NOT RULE OUT INVOLVEMENT OF OECD IN ENERGY ACTION GROUP DELIBERATIONS. HE SUGGESTED WE

CONSIDER PROPOSING PARIS AS SEAT FOR EAG, OSTENSIBLY BECAUSE OF PROXIMITY TO OECD BUT PRINCIPALLY AS SOOTHING PILL FOR FRENCH.

2. RIBERHOLDT SAID THAT, IN NEXT WEEK'S COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS ON WASHINGTON CONFERENCE, FONMINGULDBERG IS PREPARED TO GO "SOMEWHAT" OUT OF HIS WAY SO AS NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO A BREAK WITH THE FRENCH. DANES, FIRST AND FOREMOST, DESIRE FULLY AGREED COMMON EC POSITION EVEN IF IT IS SOMETHING LESS THAN DENMARK WOULD DESIRE. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS A LIMIT BEYOND WHICH DENMARK WOULD NOT GO, ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT DENMARK WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO STRETCH THAT LIMIT VERY FAR. DENMARK, LIKE OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS, MAY BE VERY ANNOYED BY FRENCH ANTICS BUT DOES NOT WANT TO RISK AN OPEN BREAK AND DISGRACE OF THE COMMUNITY.

3. FRENCH HAVE BEEN VERY ACTIVE WITH DANISH GOVERNMENT IN PAST FEW DAYS PUSHING THEIR POSITION ON ENERGY HARD. (FRENCH AMBASSADOR WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY IN COPENHAGEN DURING LAST TWO CALLS ECONOMIC MADE.) RIBERHOLDT SAID SEVERAL OF THESE SESSIONS WITH FRENCH GOT QUITE ROUGH. DANES TOLD THEM THAT FRENCH HAVE NO ONE TO BLAME BUT THEMSELVES FOR THEIR PRESENT UNFAVORABLE TACTICAL POSITION. THEY WERE REMINDED THAT WHEN DANES, AS EC CHAIRMAN, URGED AS EARLY AS OCTOBER THAT ENERGY ISSUE BE PLACED ON COUNCIL AGENDA, FRENCH ADAMANTLY REFUSED AND THEY HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT EVER SINCE. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, AND BEARING DANISH NATIONAL INTERESTS IN MIND, FRENCH

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WE TOLD THEY SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED THAT DANES, AMONG OTHERS IN COMMUNITY ARE SUPPORTING US INITIATIVE. DUNNIGAN

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